



European Commission

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN

**DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR ENERGY
OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND
PREŠOV SELF-GOVERNING REGION**



Prešov Self-Governing Region

Covenant of Mayors in the Prešov Region

THIS AGREEMENT IS MADE BETWEEN

The Directorate General for Energy of the European Commission (hereinafter DG ENER), at Rue de Mot 24, BE-1040 Brussels, Belgium represented by Jean-Arnold Vinois, Acting Director for Internal Energy Market, and the Prešov Self-Governing Region (hereinafter PSK), at Námestie mieru 2, Prešov 080 01, Slovak Republic represented by Mr. Peter Chudík, President of the Prešov Self-Governing Region.

WHEREAS

The European Commission launched in 2008 the Covenant of Mayors, open to cities and municipalities of all sizes in Europe, with the aim of involving local authorities and citizens in the development and implementation of the European Union energy policy. The Covenant consists of the commitment of the signatory cities to go beyond the EU objectives for reducing CO₂ emissions through energy efficiency measures, actions related to renewable energy sources and clean transport.

The European Commission recognises the entities acting as Covenant Territorial Coordinators as its main allies in conveying the message and increasing the impact of the Covenant. These Territorial Coordinators are defined as those public authorities that are in a position to provide strategic guidance and technical support to municipalities with the political will to sign up to the Covenant of Mayors, but lacking the skills and/or resources to meet its requirements, namely the preparation, adoption and implementation of the Sustainable Energy Action Plans.

The PSK has among its main purposes the cooperation with municipalities in developing their policies and management programmes.



The PSK has considered very positively the Covenant of Mayors and its potential results since its launch; it is for that reason that it has decided to strengthen the promotion of the Covenant of Mayors among municipalities of its area but also to reinforce its support to the municipalities who decide to formalise their commitment to the Covenant. In order to achieve this, the PSK is willing to launch a specific program to support local councils to get the condition of accession to the Covenant of Mayors including, among other things, the preparation of Sustainable Energy Action Plans at Municipal level.

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS

DG ENER publicly acknowledges the Prešov Self-Governing Region as a major player in the Covenant, in its quality of Covenant Territorial Coordinator for local authorities in the Prešov Region.

II

The PSK is committed to carry out the following tasks, within the territory of its competence:

- a) Promote among the municipalities accession to the Covenant of Mayors.
- b) Provide financing to Signatories in the form of direct financial support (grants, subsidies, etc.) or via staff allocated to technical support for the preparation and the implementation of the Sustainable Energy Action Plans.
- c) Define the scope and methodology of the assessment, monitoring and verification reports, supporting the implementation of the Action Plans.
- d) Provide technical support for the organization of public events (Energy days) to raise awareness to be performed under the Covenant.
- e) Report regularly to DG ENER of the European Union Commission on the results obtained in the Prešov Region, and participate in discussions on the strategic implementation of the Covenant proposed by the Commission.



III

DG ENER in turn undertakes to:

- a) Provide visibility to initiatives taken by the PSK (e.g. via the online profile, web news, benchmarks of excellence on Covenant of Mayors website or via its promotional materials or events)
- b) Share and debate available information to make progress in achieving the common goals.
- c) Inform in timely fashion on new developments on the Covenant process.

IV

This agreement does not imply any legal and/or budgetary commitment between the Commission and the Prešov Self-Governing Region.

This agreement shall be renewed automatically every year unless otherwise decided by either or of the parties hereto.

The parties shall co-operate and work together on equal terms for their mutual benefit, towards the achievement of the objectives summarised herein. Should any provision or provisions of the present prove to be impracticable, the parties agree to prepare new alternatives for contributing to the aims of the Covenant.

This Agreement is signed in duplicate and translated into both languages (English and Slovak). The parties hereto agree that in the event of any divergence in interpretation between the two versions, the English language text shall in any event prevail.

European Commission
Directorate General for Energy

The Prešov Self-Governing Region

signed

signed

Jean-Arnold Vinois
Acting Director for Internal Energy Market

Peter Chudík
*President of
the Prešov Self-Governing Region*

27. 2. 2012

